

The Margaret Eaton School
TORONTO

January 5, 1934

R. Y. Eaton, Esq.
The T. Eaton Co. Ltd.
Toronto 2, Ontario

Dear Mr. Eaton:

I am going south for six weeks or so - leaving in a few days, and I do want you to know what is in my mind regarding school before I leave.

I feel that now is a most opportune time for me to give up the directorship. As far as I am concerned this move should have been made several years ago but conditions were difficult for the school. It seemed as if it were too risky a step to take. Then again, I would have hesitated to suggest withdrawing when the school was in the financial condition of last year. This year, with a good registration of as fine a group of students as we have ever had, and with a person as assistant director like Miss Somers who is so perfectly equipped in the field of physical education and in many other ways to assume the headship of a school, the strategic moment seems to have arrived.

With regard to the residence, I still do feel responsible, and I would be perfectly willing to retain that responsibility until our lease runs out; but, putting that matter to one side all other conditions seem to point to this as a fitting time for my withdrawal. I feel I have taken the school on as far as I can take it under present conditions (in which I bear the onus of responsibility), and that a person with a university degree, who has had the wide experience in university life such as Miss Somers has had, ought to be able to carry on better than I could in view of our hope for further university connection. X

I definitely want to withdraw at the end of this school year. If there is a decision made regarding our future and I can help it in any way I shall be delighted to do so, but if there is no decision made, and we are to carry on as we are, it would seem better for me to withdraw completely this year when I would be leaving the school in good hands and in a good condition.

I have regretted sometimes that you have not been more fully informed of just what we were doing, and in case it might have an interest or value to you now, I am enclosing a short report of what has transpired since 1928 when I took charge.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,
Mary G. Hamilton.

MGE:ES

any agreement with Mrs. Somers

residence 3 years

CA.1

THE SCHOOL 1926-33

The reorganization of The Margaret Eaton School of Literature and Expression took place in 1925. The name was changed to The Margaret Eaton School, the crest was dropped, the school was moved from the Bay Street building to the present site, and the curriculum of studies was divided into two definite departments, one of Dramatic Art, under Mr. Bertram Forsyth, and one of Physical Education, under Mary G. Hamilton.

In 1926 the physical education department carried on alone. The Discobolus was chosen for the school crest, with the motto meaning Beauty and Fitness. Student government was introduced into the school this year and has proved an unqualified success.

The years following have meant a steady development in all branches of our work and an increasing knowledge of the school everywhere.

I Development of the work in the school

- a. A most important step was the introduction of a month at Camp Temunakeon at the beginning of each school year. This provided a very valuable addition to the rounding-out of our course. It has steadily improved as a training ground for the students' work as camp counselors. Latterly, the students have not only had courses under their regular instructors but have had the benefit of special courses in Campcraft and Camp Education given by experts in these lines. This Camp Training School is the only one of its kind in Canada.
- b. Remedial Gymnastics have shown a steady growth and the students now get an unusually good course which fits them to prescribe and give corrective treatments for postural defects. Games and athletic skills which have

become a most important part of school life, have increased in both number and variety and badminton, baseball, basketball, ground and ice hockey, lacrosse, tennis, volley ball and archery are major interests. We are fortunate in being able to use Ramsden Park for our out-door games including tennis, and during the winter months we rent the Varsity Arena for ice hockey and figure skating. Enthusiasm is not lacking in swimming either. The bronze medal of the Royal Life Saving Society is required before graduation, but 80% of the students win the silver medal as well. In addition the work in swimming includes a course in the theory of swimming, and the senior students are all required to teach swimming under supervision as part of their regular practice teaching. Student teaching in the public schools is another important development of the course. Through the permission of the Board of Education, from October to April each year the senior students have their regular classes in the public schools, where they teach under the supervision of a member of our staff. This not only gives them confidence, but also gives them actual experience in handling discipline and interest problems.

c. Work with the university

For a number of years we took charge of the work in Remedials, Massage and Physical Training given to the university students in the Physiotherapy course. Work in physical training and remedials was also given to the Occupational Therapy students, and one year a course in recreation was given to the Social Science students of the university. This year The Margaret Eaton School is in complete charge of physical education at Victoria. We consider this a big step forward in our relationship with the university.

II Recognition of The Margaret Eaton School

The work of The Margaret Eaton School is recognized throughout Canada, in the United States, in England, in Japan, China and India. Even now, in spite of immigration restrictions, schools in the States write to us for graduates to take charge of their physical departments. Only recently a request came for some one to go to Japan and we already have two graduates of the Class of '29 teaching in China. In every province in the Dominion our graduates are teaching. The enclosed list will give an idea of the large number of important positions held by young women who have graduated from The Margaret Eaton School since 1916. Of the 122 who have graduated in those seven years, 73 are holding positions in physical education, seven are in other occupations, 19 are married and 23 are at home.

Graduates of The Margaret Eaton School also play a very important part in the summer camp life of Canada. Last summer alone, when our school was small, the 1932-33 students served 5 Canadian Girls' in Training Camps, 3 Girl Guide, and 3 Y.W.C.A. Camps. In addition, 5 were counselors at Fresh Air Camps such as Bolton, 2 taught swimming and 8 were counselors or sub-counselors at large private camps. To summarize, 17 out of 25 students had summer positions and served 17 different camps or pools.

SOE PHYSICAL EDUCATION POSITIONS HELD BY 1927-33 GRADUATES
January, 1934

<u>Nova Scotia</u>	Halifax Ladies' College Halifax Y.W.C.A. Edgehill School for Girls, Windsor Acadia University - Student Assistant
<u>P.E.I.</u>	Charlottetown, Private Classes
<u>New Brunswick</u>	Netherwood School for Girls, Rothesay
<u>Quebec</u>	King's Hall, Compton Quebec Y.W.C.A. Sherbrooke Y.W.C.A.
<u>Ontario</u>	Ottawa Ladies' College St. Margaret's School, Kirkfield Ontario Ladies' College, Whitby Loretto Abbey, Toronto Eaton Girls' Club, " St. Mildred's, " Branksome Hall, " Bishop Strachan School, Toronto Willard Hall, " Central Neighborhood House " (Dancing only) Toronto Y.W.C.A. St. Catharines Y.W.C.A. Strathallan, School for Girls, Hamilton Hamilton Y.W.C.A. Ontario Training School for Girls, Galt Kitchener Public Schools Kitchener Y.W.C.A. Paris Y.W.C.A. Stratford Y.W.C.A. University of Western Ontario, London - 2 Student Assistants London Y.W.C.A.
<u>Manitoba</u>	Riverbend School for Girls, Winnipeg Winnipeg Y.W.C.A.
<u>Saskatchewan</u>	Moose Jaw, Y.W.C.A. Saskatoon Y.W.C.A. University of Saskatchewan - Student Assistant Regina Y.W.C.A.
<u>Alberta</u>	St. Hilda's, Calgary Calgary Y.W.C.A. Edmonton Y.W.C.A.
<u>British Columbia</u>	New Westminster Public School St. Clare School, Vancouver King Edward High School, Vancouver

May, 1935

Annual Report
of the
Director of The Margaret Eaton School

The following report of the work of The Margaret Eaton School for 1934-35, is herewith submitted:

Miss Mary G. Hamilton resigned as director of the school in the spring of 1934, so for the first time in September, 1934, the school was under the leadership of the present director.

Thirty-six students reported at Camp Tanamakoon on September 1st. One Senior, Mary Steedman, was absent on account of health, and two Juniors arrived several days after camp opened. The staff consisted of Miss Wardley, Miss Jackson and Miss Miller. The director spent only ten days at camp during the month, owing to the illness and death of her father.

The school year in Toronto began on October 1st. In addition to Miss Wardley and Miss Jackson, full-time members of the staff, the following instructors have contributed to the work of the year: Miss Marion Hobday, Creative Dancing; Miss Ruby Thomas, Lacrosse; Miss Jane Ferguson, Tennis; Mrs. John Creighton, English; Mr. Thornton Mustard, Psychology; Miss E.J. Ely, lectures on Remedials; Miss Katharine Hobbs, Practice in Remedials; Mrs. H.M. Fierro, Skating. Miss Jackson was loaned to Victoria College two half-days a week, and she also carried four hours a week of instruction in theory and practice of gymnastics for the students of Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy. Both Miss Jackson and Miss Wardley helped with the private instruction in swimming.

The "co-operation" with the University of Toronto was carried out for the first time. The proposed details of "co-operation" had been presented by Miss Coventry and the Director of The Margaret Eaton School to the committee on "co-operation" of the University Senate, under the leadership first of Dean DeLury, and on his resignation from the University, Dean Allen. These were approved by the committee and by President Cody. They consisted in The Margaret Eaton School students taking Anatomy with the diploma students in physical education of the University, the first year under Dr. Edith Gordon, the second year under Miss Kathleen McMurrich, each for four periods a week; the diploma students taking Remedials, Lacrosse and Skating with The Margaret Eaton School classes; the use of The Margaret Eaton School gymnasium three hours a week by the Women's Athletic Association under Miss Parkes; and an exchange with the University Extension Department which consisted in The Margaret Eaton School giving instruction in Theory and Practice of Gymnastics and the use of the Remedial and Massage room in return for courses in Psychology and English. President Cody asked that all details of operation be referred to Mr. Dunlop, and he has been exceedingly helpful and patient in working these out. On the whole, I believe the "co-operation" as undertaken this year has worked out very well, one of the chief handicaps being our own students' difficulty with their Anatomy, perhaps partly due to their inability to study with such a heavy programme of practice work. I think this may be improved, however, when they are more accustomed to University standards and requirements.

There have been only a few changes in the curriculum this year. In making out the course of study an attempt was made to concentrate each subject within one year or one term, instead of spreading each one over the entire two years. New courses were given in Community Hygiene and

Physiology of Exercise. The Juniors all received certificates in First Aid from the St. John Ambulance Association. The following awards of the Royal Life Saving Society were obtained: # diplomas, ten awards of merit, eleven bronze medallions, three instructor's certificates.

One period a week was set aside for Assemblies of the student body. A committee of students arranged the programmes of every second assembly, the staff taking care of the others. At the end of the year a vote on the "best liked" assemblies resulted in the following four receiving the most votes: Colonel Fallis' talk, the Senior "show", piano and voice recital by Nadine Ysaye, and the community singing led by Mr. Wm. R. Cook.

The increase in the number of students seemed to make it wise to have a representative group of students to conduct the affairs of Student Government, rather than the Head Girl and Proctors only. The Student Council was organized, consisting of the Head Girl, Class Proctors and an additional student representative from each class, the Head Girl and Assistant of the residence, and a staff advisor. The Council met twice a month, and was instrumental in initiating such activities as the Dramatic, Handcraft and Glee Clubs, the school magazine, etc.

Among the special events of the year have been the big school tea and the student tea dance in December; the Christmas service and tea at which the Dramatic Club presented very creditably, "The Least of These", by Tolstoi; the sleighing party at which the Juniors entertained the school; the School Dance, held at the Toronto Skating Club; the Swimming Demonstration; the Play Day, conducted by the Senior class for selected students from some of the private schools of the city; the Athletic Association Banquet; and finally the Annual Demonstration of the indoor

activities of the school programme held this year at the Hart House gymnasium.

On May 21st, eighteen Seniors were graduated. These girls return to their homes in British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick, and Ontario, with inspiration and ambition to go on in the work of physical education. They are the product of the school for 1935, and the members of the staff who have grown very much interested in these students, expect for them every success in their profession.

FLORENCE A. SOMERS

Director



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